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Press Release

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### Workshop on Environmental Analysis and Compliance In Oil and Gas Exploration

*U.S. Department of State Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative*



**Photo caption:** Papua New Guinea Participants and U.S. Department of Interior facilitators at the EGCI workshop.

The U.S. Embassy hosted a three-day workshop entitled “*Environmental Information Analysis and Compliance in Oil and Gas Exploration and Development in Papua New Guinea*” featuring experts from the U.S. Department of the Interior’s Bureau of Land Management. Papua New Guinean Government officials and these U.S.-based experts discussed how to evaluate and make informed decisions on environmental issues, conduct consultations with indigenous tribes and peoples, and mandate and assess surface protection measures in on-shore oil and gas development.

Participants included representatives from Papua New Guinea’s Departments of National Planning, Environment and Conservation, Petroleum and Energy, and Lands and Physical Planning. Through this workshop, these representatives were able to learn best practices in these areas, and discuss ways to improve interagency coordination on crosscutting energy,

environment, and land issues in order to improve the government's ability to evaluate proposals for oil and gas development.

This workshop is part of the Energy Governance and Capacity Initiative (EGCI), a U.S. Department of State-led, U.S. interagency effort to provide a wide range of technical and capacity building assistance to the governments in select countries that are on the verge of becoming the world's next generation of oil and gas producers.

Countries receiving EGCI assistance have world class hydrocarbon resource potential and expect to receive sizable, near-term financial windfalls from the development of their oil and gas resources.

EGCI's objective is to help these countries to manage their oil and gas sector revenues wisely and in a manner that maximizes and sustains natural resource development for the country and its people.

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